

metro

NEW YORK CITY NO. 1 FREE DAILY IN THE CITY

Monday, October 23, 2017 metro.us | t: MetroNewYork | f: MetroNewYork

OH, MICKEY!

Mets hire Mickey Callaway as next manager. 23

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'The Walking Dead' takes it easy. 17

A SAFER STATE

Massachusetts has the lowest rate of firearm deaths in the nation, and some of the strictest gun laws. See the connection, America? 8-9

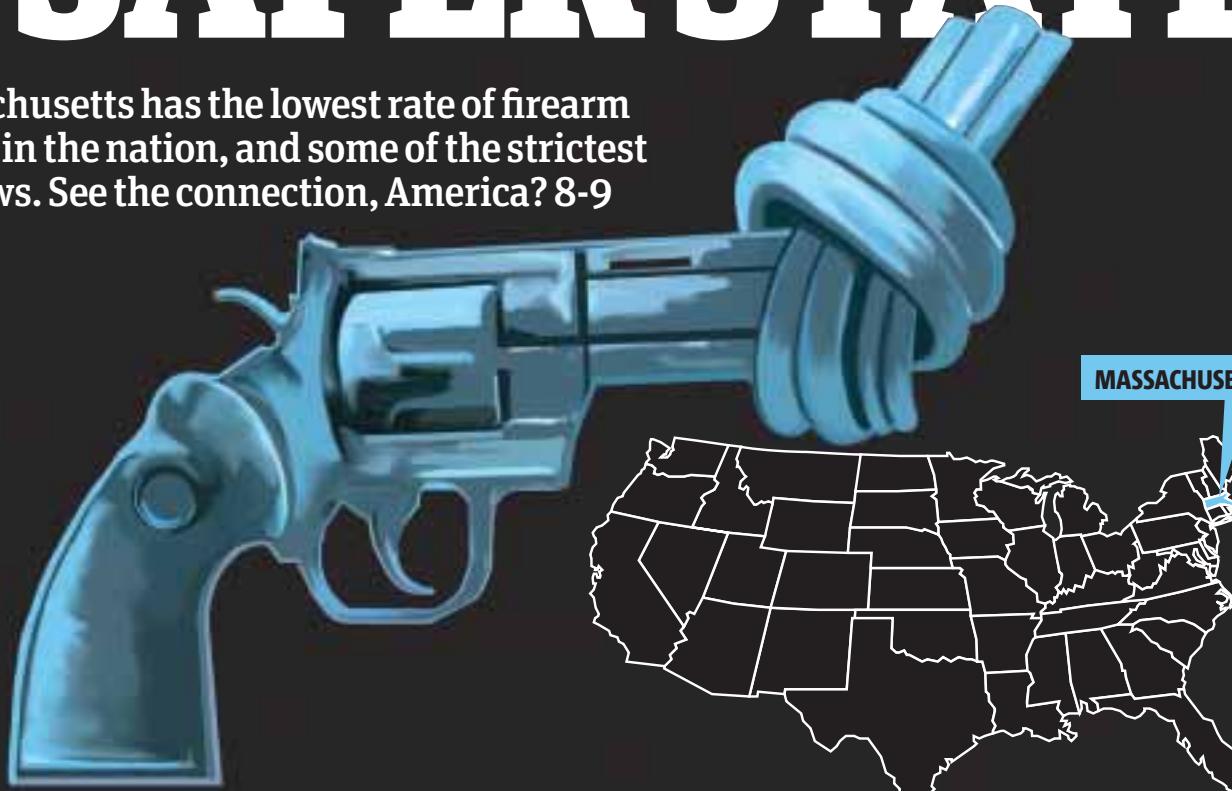


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JOE PANTORNO, SPORTS EDITOR

Just a day after the Yankees' season ended in Game 7 of the ALCS, the Mets found their manager in Cleveland Indians pitching coach Mickey Callaway. No matter the opinion on former manager Terry Collins, Callaway will have big shoes to fill as he's taking over a team with a starving fan base in the biggest sports market in the United States. Learn more about the new Mets skipper inside. [metro.us](#)

HALLOWEEN PARADE

3 People wearing costumes attend a Halloween parade ahead of Halloween, an annual holiday celebrated at Chicago's Millennium Park.



GETTY IMAGES



WARNING OF ATTACKS ON ENERGY INDUSTRIAL FIRMS

4 The U.S. government issued a rare public warning that sophisticated hackers are targeting energy and industrial firms, the latest sign that cyber attacks present an increasing threat to the power industry and other public infrastructure. The Department of Homeland Security and the FBI warned in a report distributed by email that the nuclear, energy, aviation, water and critical manufacturing indus-

tries have been targeted along with government entities in attacks dating back to at least May. The agencies warned that hackers had succeeded in compromising some targeted networks, but did not identify specific. The objective of the attackers is to compromise organizational networks with malicious emails and tainted websites to obtain credentials for accessing computer networks of their targets, the report said.

TITANIC VICTIM'S LETTER SELLS FOR RECORD \$166K

5 A personal letter found on the body of a man killed in the sinking of the Titanic sold at auction for \$166,000, a record price for correspondence from the doomed liner. The letter is one of the last known to have survived the sinking and still carries stains from its time in the Atlantic. Written by first-class passenger Alexander Oskar Holverson on embossed Titanic

"on-board" stationary, the letter to his mother describes his impressions of the palatial ship, praising the food and music. "If all goes well we will arrive in New York Wednesday A.M." Holverson wrote the day before the ship's fateful encounter with an iceberg. Holverson was a Minnesota-born salesman, who was traveling on the ship with his wife, Mary Alice, who survived the sinking.

MetroWeen's Trumpkin contest

Send us photos of your carved "Trumpkin" pumpkin for a chance to win a \$100 Amazon gift card. The winning Trumpkin will be featured in our special "MetroWeen" Halloween edition on Oct. 26, and on our social media accounts. Email pictures to Morgan@metro.us.



CARTER SAYS WOULD TRAVEL TO NORTH KOREA

1 Former president Jimmy Carter said he would be willing to travel to North Korea on behalf of the Trump administration to help diffuse rising tensions, The New York Times reported on its website. "I would go, yes," Carter, 93, told the Times when he was asked in an interview whether it was time for another diplomatic mission and whether he would do so for President Trump. Carter,

said he had spoken to Trump's National Security Adviser Lt.-Gen. H. R. McMaster, who is a friend, but so far has gotten a negative response. "I told him that I was available if they ever need me," the Times quoted Carter as saying. Told that some in Washington were made nervous by Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's war of words, Carter said "I'm afraid, too, of a situation."

MCCONNELL: WHAT DOES TRUMP WANT?

2 Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell said on Sunday he was willing to bring healthcare legislation up for a vote but was waiting for the go-ahead from President Donald Trump, who sent mixed signals last week about a bipartisan bill that would shore up insurance markets. Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell said on Sunday he was willing to bring healthcare legislation up for a vote but was

waiting for the go-ahead from President Donald Trump, who sent mixed signals last week about a bipartisan bill that would shore up insurance markets. That legislation, introduced by Republican Sen. Lamar Alexander and Democratic Sen. Patty Murray, has drawn support from several Republican senators. Asked if he would put it up for a vote this week, McConnell, the Senate majority leader, punted to Trump.

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New York bans involvement of elephants in circus

"The Elephant Protection Act furthers this administration's efforts to fight animal cruelty and create a stronger, more humane New York," Cuomo said.



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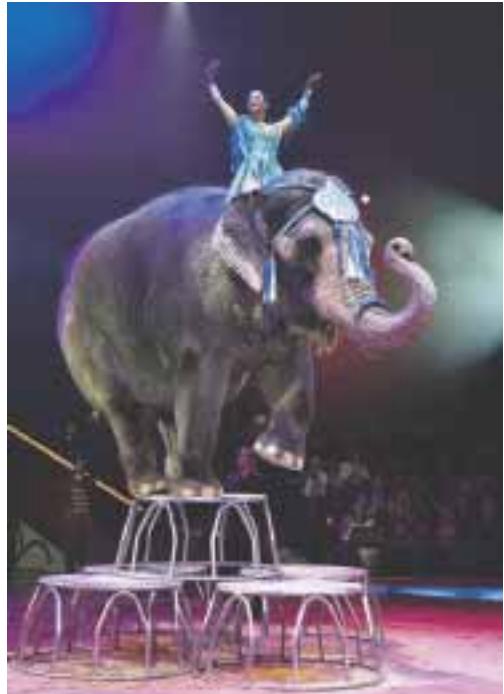
Gov. Andrew Cuomo banned the use of elephants in entertainment acts like circuses and carnivals within the state of New York on Thursday. The act was adopted this past spring after reports of cruelty against elephants by circus trainers surfaced.

Cuomo's Elephant Protection Act comes on the heels of a like-minded ban in New York City that was signed by Mayor Bill de Blasio in July.

"The use of elephants in these types of settings is dangerous to their health and potentially

"The use of elephants in these types of settings is dangerous to their health and potentially abusive."

Gov. Andrew Cuomo



Gov. Andrew Cuomo on Thursday passed a bill banning the use of elephants in entertainment acts within the state. GETTY IMAGES

abusive," the governor said. "The Elephant Protection Act furthers this administration's efforts to fight animal cruelty and create a stronger, more humane New York."

Earlier this year, Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus shuttered after 146 years following a steady decline in ticket sales. Operated by Feld Entertainment, the circus held its final show at the Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum on Long Island in May.

Last year, the circus

stopped using elephants in its show due to long-time backlash from animal rights groups. The elephants were retired at the circus's Florida sanctuary.

Additionally, Cuomo announced that he was starting the \$5 million "Companion Animal Capital Fund," which will assist in upgrading animal shelters via matching grants "to continue their important work of finding these pets a loving home in New York," he said.

HURRICANE RELIEF

Trump video played at hurricane relief concert

In a rare show of unity, President Donald Trump praised all five of his living predecessors on Saturday, thanking them in a video for their work helping to raise funds to aid victims of recent hurricanes.

His video statement, which commends Americans for coming together in the wake of four hurricanes and the deadly California wildfires, was shown at Saturday's fund-raising concert for hurricane

victims organized by the George H.W. Bush Presidential Library Foundation and former presidents Jimmy Carter, George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush and Barack Obama. All five attended the event, which features artists Alabama, Lady Gaga, the Gatlin Brothers, Robert Earl Keene and others.

The heartbreaking devastation caused by hurricanes Harvey and Irma and Maria and Nate, along with the terrible wildfires in California, have impacted millions

of our fellow Americans," Trump said in the video. "As a nation, we mourn for those who died, and we pray for those who lost their homes or their livelihoods."

The former presidents formed the organization "One America" to help with hurricane relief after the storms left devastation and death in Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico and other parts of the U.S. Gulf Coast and Caribbean. The fund has raised more than \$31 million for relief.

REUTERS



Planned Service Changes



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No **1 2 between 34 St-Penn Station and
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- ③ service is suspended**

Travel Alternatives:

- Free shuttle buses run *to/from* ③ stations at 148 St, 145 St, and 135 St.
- ④ trains make all ③ stops between Atlantic Av-Barclays Ctr and New Lots Av.
- ⑤ service operates between Flatbush Av and E 180 St, then via the ② *to/from* 241 St.
- Use the **A E N Q R 4 5** *to/from* nearby stations.

Stay Informed

Call 511 and say “Current Service Status,” look for informational posters in stations, or visit **mta.info** – where you can access the latest Planned Service Changes information, use TripPlanner⁺, and sign up for free email and text alerts.

####FASTRACK



More than 2.5 million New Yorkers rely on the city's bus service, and 12 percent of rides are on its Select Bus Service. FLICKR/MTA

21 new SBS routes coming over next 10 years: Mayor

Over the next 10 years, Select Bus Service will launch 21 additional routes and serve 500,000 more New Yorkers.



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If you're one of the more than 2.5 million New Yorkers who rely on the city's bus service, the good news is improve-

ments are coming, Mayor Bill de Blasio announced Friday. There is a catch, though: They'll be rolled out over the course of the next 10 years.

The city is planning to expand its Select Bus Service (SBS) and upgrade more than 21 new routes over the coming decade, allowing the buses to serve 500,000 more riders.

The announcement came just a day after union officials and bus drivers rallied outside the MTA's headquarters to call for all-door boarding on all city buses, which is currently only available on SBS buses.

"With even more Select Bus Service routes coming on-line in the years ahead and a commitment to bring SBS-style treatments to other routes, more communities in every borough will see their bus service improve," de Blasio said. "These improvements have been proven effective, by reducing travel time, increasing bus reliability and helping us meet the goals of major initiatives — both for a safer city under Vision Zero and a more equitable one under OneNYC."

Twelve percent of bus rides are taken on the existing 14 SBS routes, and with the coming expansion, officials expect that ridership to rise to 30 percent, roughly one in three passengers.

"Buses are notoriously slow and unreliable, and the consequences are severe: When we surveyed bus riders this summer, we heard from people who missed work, lost wages and sometimes even lost jobs because of poor bus service," said John Raskin, executive director of Riders Alliance.

"But Select Bus Service works: Riders know it from experience, and the data shows it's true. It's time to apply lessons from the successful Select Bus Service experiment to the rest of the city."

To that end, the coming improvements, which will be a joint effort between the MTA and the city's Department of Transportation, will focus on these cor-

ridors:

The Bronx
Broadway to Central Bronx; Gun Hill Road; University Avenue; Tremont Avenue; Harlem to Southern Boulevard; Soundview to Washington Heights

Brooklyn
Church Avenue; South Brooklyn East-West; Downtown Brooklyn to Ridgewood; Brooklyn Access to JFK; Flatbush Avenue

Manhattan
Manhattan crosstown routes

Queens
Ridgewood to Flushing; Flushing to Springfield Boulevard; Hillside Avenue; Union Turnpike; Northern Boulevard; Southeast Queens; Jamaica to Flushing via Kissena Boulevard; Queens Access to JFK

Staten Island
North Shore

As part of the initiative, two or three of these corridors will be added each year.

SBS began in 2008 on the Fordham Road Bx12 route in the Bronx. In the past three years, SBS has grown from six routes to the current 14, and at least two more are planned within the next 12 months: to Woodhaven/Cross Bay Boulevard in Queens and Flatlands Avenue/Kings Highway in Brooklyn.

Among the features of SBS are off-board fare payment, all-door boarding, dedicated bus lanes and signal priority to reduce time spent at red light, all of which result in quicker trips and more riders.

SBS by the numbers

- \$9.4 million: Amount dedicated to SBS projects in the DOT's annual budget.
- 103.8: Total bus lane miles in NYC, more than doubled since SBS' 2008 launch.
- 309,000+: Daily SBS riders.
- 800,000+: Estimated SBS riders once the 21 new routes are added.

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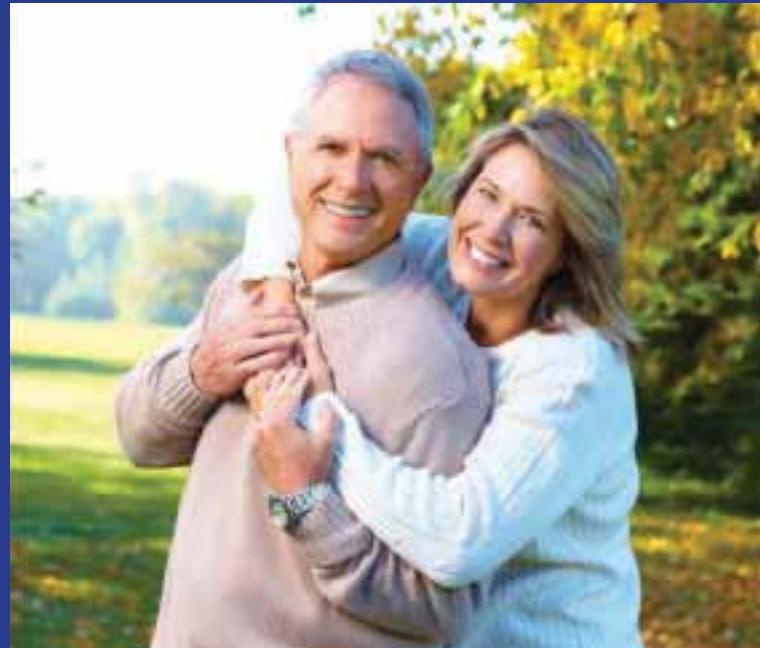
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A recent study links high firearm death rates to loose gun laws. GETTY IMAGES

Numbers show that gun control laws are working

In states with stricter gun laws, fewer people are dying.



ERIN TIERNAN
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It's a familiar narrative by now: A mass shooting shocks the nation, gun control proponents stand on their soapboxes, pro-Second Amendment groups cry about politicizing tragedy, and nothing

seems to really happen.

With little federal action on gun control, the laws managing access to firearms have largely been left up to the states to decide, and unsurprisingly, it's meant states with Democratic leadership have stricter laws while Republican-led states have much laxer laws.

And despite the echo of claims that gun laws don't work, if the numbers are to be believed, that just isn't true.

The case for gun control

In 2015, the latest year for which the Centers for Disease Control has data on gun deaths, the list of states with the lowest rate of deaths per 100,000 residents reads like a who's who of gun control efforts.

Massachusetts, with a rate of 3, had the lowest in the nation, followed by Hawaii with 3.6, New York with 4.2, Rhode Island with 4.7 and Connecticut with 5.3. New Jersey, Minnesota, California, Iowa and Nebraska rounded out the top 10.

All but two of the states (Iowa and Nebraska) are considered to have some of the strictest gun laws in the nation by the Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence, which ranks states annually. States with strict gun laws generally require background checks, waiting periods before purchase, place limits on the number of guns a person can own and ban assault weapons.

Conversely, the states with the highest death rates have some of the loosest gun laws.

But John Lott, president of the pro-Second Amendment Crime Prevention Research Center, says these statistics are a kind of feel-good data

"It's indisputable that gun laws save lives ..."

John Rosenthal

sets that should rely on a whole host of other information, like culture, demographics and rural/urban makeup that isn't factored in.

"[The gun death rates] are low despite the strict gun control laws, not because of them," he said.

It's an argument gun-owning activist John Rosenthal has heard before. He's after common-sense gun laws and he points to Massachusetts as the perfect example of why gun control laws work.

When Rosenthal launched hit nonprofit Stop Handgun Violence in 1994, that gun death rate in Massachusetts was about 7.5. Through a series of targeted gun control bills, that number has dropped by 60 percent over the last two decades.

"It's indisputable that gun laws save lives, we, Massachusetts, are an urban state and we have the lowest rate of gun deaths per 100,000 population and the most effective gun laws in the nation," he said.

Gun control laws and mass shootings

When it comes to mass shootings, widely defined as public shootings where four or more people are killed, the data is a little less clear.

The frequency of mass shootings in the United States is about on par with that of the '80s and '90s, but they're getting deadlier.

Rosenthal argues universal background checks and federal bans on assault weapons and large capacity ammunition magazines — the weapon of choice in most mass shootings — could help.

"We just want to make it harder for criminals, the dangerously mentally ill and even al-Qaida to buy guns," he said.

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THE GUN DEATH RATE IN MASSACHUSETTS HAS DROPPED BY 60% OVER THE LAST TWO DECADES BECAUSE OF GUN CONTROL BILLS

Firearm homicide rates are higher in states with lax concealed carry laws: Study

Self-defense has often been the explanation behind allowing gun ownership, especially when it comes to concealed carry. But do concealed carry laws actually make citizens safer?

No, according to a recent study from the Boston University School of Public Health.

States will "shall-issue" laws have higher homicide rates than those with "may-issue" laws, the study found, specifically when it comes to firearm and handgun homicide.

"Shall-issue" laws, present in 29 states, have little or no discretion for issuing permits, and a permit must be issued if the applicant meets the base requirements.

Nine states have "may-issue" laws, where local law enforcement has strict discretion over whether or not to issue concealed carry permits and can deny permits even if the applicant has no criminal history. (In 12 states, no permit is required to carry a concealed handgun.)

Shall-issue laws were associated with 6.5 percent higher total homicide rates, 8.6 percent higher firearm homicide rates, and 10.6 percent higher handgun homicide rates, according to the study, published Thursday in the American Journal of Public Health.

Physician and BU professor Michael Siegel and his team of researchers compared homicide rates in may-issue and shall-issue states using data from 1991 to 2015.

"I think this is really a critical research question because it has such implications for what we do about it," Siegel

10.6%

SHALL-ISSUE LAWS
WERE ASSOCIATED
WITH 10.6%
HIGHER HANDGUN
HOMICIDE RATES
ACCORDING TO
THE STUDY

also specific to handgun homicide — not long-gun, because concealed weapons obviously are all handguns — I think that adds validity to our findings."

KRISTIN TOUSSAINT



States with "shall-issue" concealed carry laws have higher handgun homicide rates. WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

said. "The question of whether or not having more concealed gun carries makes us safer or less safe is important because it leads to opposite policy implications."

Previous research on that question was conflicting, Siegel said: Some studies said more lenient concealed-carry laws increased crime rates, others said they lowered crime rates and many said there was no effect.

"We wanted to try to resolve this," he said. "We noticed a lot of the existing studies were written many years ago, with data from the '70s and '80s. We wanted to take a fresh look at it in more modern times. [Our data set] brought us up to the current time, or the most recent data available."

Siegel doesn't think those previous studies were wrong but believes that the relationship between shall-issue laws and homicide rates has changed.

"If there was increase in both firearm homicide and non-firearm homicide, that would really cast doubt on our findings, because why would more concealed carry permits affect non-firearm homicide rates?" he said. "The fact that we found that the impact on homicide was specific to just firearm homicide and

"The fact that we found that the impact on homicide was specific to just firearm homicide and also specific to handgun homicide ... adds validity to our findings."

Michael Siegel

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Baby Boomers Benefitting From Knee Arthritis Treatment

How Cutting-Edge Treatments and Technology Are Helping Knee Arthritis Sufferers Around the World

New York City - Nothing is more true. A life with constant pain is not a life worth living. And if you can't stay active and do all the things you love - like walking, playing golf, tennis, vacationing etc. It's not really a life at all.

...the Pain Is More Like A Prison

And for generations, knee arthritis has given good, hard working people a life sentence of pain and suffering. To make things worse, slick marketers only add to the pain by promising wonder cures. Late night television and your mail box are filled with "wonder arthritis cures" that make wild claims and sound too good to be true . . . **Because They Are**

Nothing is worse than getting your hopes up - spending your hard earned money - only to be let down time after time.

It is easy to give up...

But while marketers were peddling "wonder cures," real doctors and researchers were hard at work trying to discover a real medical solution. Modern medicine eradicated small pox and polio. Through laser eye surgery, doctors can give almost blind people perfect 20/20 vision. The potential cures on the horizon with breakthroughs like stem cell and regenerative therapies are endless.

Solve The Riddle Of Arthritis Pain?

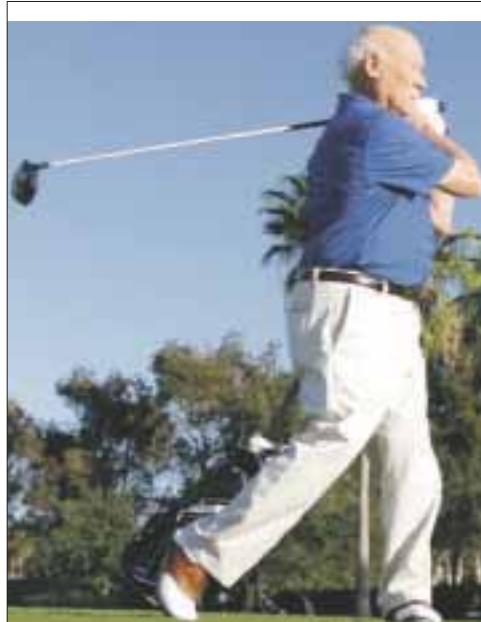
For the past 3 years, that's exactly what a medical clinic in New York City has been doing. The **NYC Pain MD** doctors have been able to help thousands of knee arthritis sufferers with cutting-edge treatments and technology older generations could only dream about. One of these treatments in particular has helped thousands of patients ease or eliminate pain and go back to doing their favorite activities like: walking, playing golf, tennis and many more. The treatment is called viscosupplementation. *But wait.* This is NOT the typical viscosupplementation. So if you are one of the many knee arthritis sufferers who already had viscosupplementation and did not get great results - what you are about to discover should be very important, to you in particular. It might even get you out of pain.

Here is why: During viscosupplementation, a special lubricating gel is put directly into your arthritic knee joint. This not only helps the knee joint to glide more smoothly, it acts as a cushion, protects the joint, and relieves a lot of pain. This is often referred to as "joint oil." In many cases, when done properly, this can dramatically lessen knee pain for up to 6 months and much longer in many cases.

And even better - if this treatment works for you the first time - it can be safely repeated when necessary and the results are often better for some.

Like Threading A Needle?

The key to this treatment being successful is actually getting the special lubricating gel directly into the joint where it can go to work. That's why the doctors at **NYC Pain MD** use very advanced digital imaging that allows them to see directly into the joint and make sure the lubricating gel "hits the spot" and the treatment has the best odds for success. Studies show that doctors doing these types of procedures without this special imaging actually miss the joint space up to one third of the time!



"I've had trouble with my knee walking. I'm a golfer and want to play golf but I couldn't. I made the call and went and it's the best thing I ever did. It's just - now I can play golf, I can walk, I can climb stairs, I can do things I did many years ago".

"It's the smartest thing ever did" "Since I've been going for the treatment for my knees I don't take any pills, I take not over the counter medication..."

"This a good alternative to surgery." "I am so glad I went. I'm so confident I feel so good about it and I recommend It to everybody." William La Spina . Golf Enthusiast

(While **NYC Pain MD** cannot say all patients will respond like this we can say they are possible. Every patient is individual and results will vary, patient to patient.)

Why Treatment Can Fail

This is why viscosupplementation can fail for some people. It is also why many knee arthritis sufferers come to **NYC Pain MD** after failed treatments elsewhere... and are finally able to get relief. It is not uncommon for patients to travel hours for the advanced treatments given at **NYC Pain MD**.

Patients Should Be Assured About Precision Treatments

ONE BIG MISTAKE we have heard about is to use digital imaging or ultra-sound to mark the knee and then shut off the imaging and then not use it during the treatment procedure!!! **This means the doctor did not actually see if the lubricating gel went exactly where it was intended.** The only way to know for sure if the procedure was as accurate as possible - and the lubricating gel went precisely into the joint space - is to use the digital imaging **during the entire procedure.** You can actually see the lubricating gel as it goes where it is needed. **If you did not actually see it on the digital imaging screen - you do not know for sure if you actually got the proper treatment.**

If you are going to have this treatment, make sure you ask your doctor if special digital imaging is used **THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE PROCEDURE.** Not just in the beginning. If you have already had this procedure without this advanced imaging... Or if it was only used in the beginning... There is a good chance you did not get the results you could and should have.

"Clearly, technology is only as good as the doctors using it ... and clearly experience matters"

That's why, if you need heart surgery, you go to a heart surgeon... Not a general practitioner. At **NYC Pain MD** you will be seen by doctors who are specially trained in this procedure... Do it every day... and see thousands of patients every year. The latest technology combined with experienced and skilled doctors gets the best results possible.

Who Is This Treatment For?

This treatment is not for everyone. But it is for a lot of people who suffer with knee arthritis. Especially if you would like to avoid total knee replacement surgery and possibly lessen or eliminate your pain. This treatment

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may help you if you have knee pain due to arthritis. It may also help you if you do not have dramatic visible signs of arthritis on x-ray. Studies show that arthritis is present long before it can be seen on x-ray. In fact, the sooner you start this treatment the better. So, if you have knee pain - seeing one of the specially trained medical doctors at **NYC Pain MD** could be the answer you are looking for. **This is important - this is especially for you if you have had viscosupplementation in the past without good results.**

Many patients who did not have good results elsewhere are often able to get very favorable results because of the advanced technology and procedure experience at **NYC Pain MD**. In fact, some patients have decided to cancel knee surgery and others go back to the active life-style they had before it was stolen by all the pain.

How To Find Out If The Experts At NYC Pain MD Can Help You

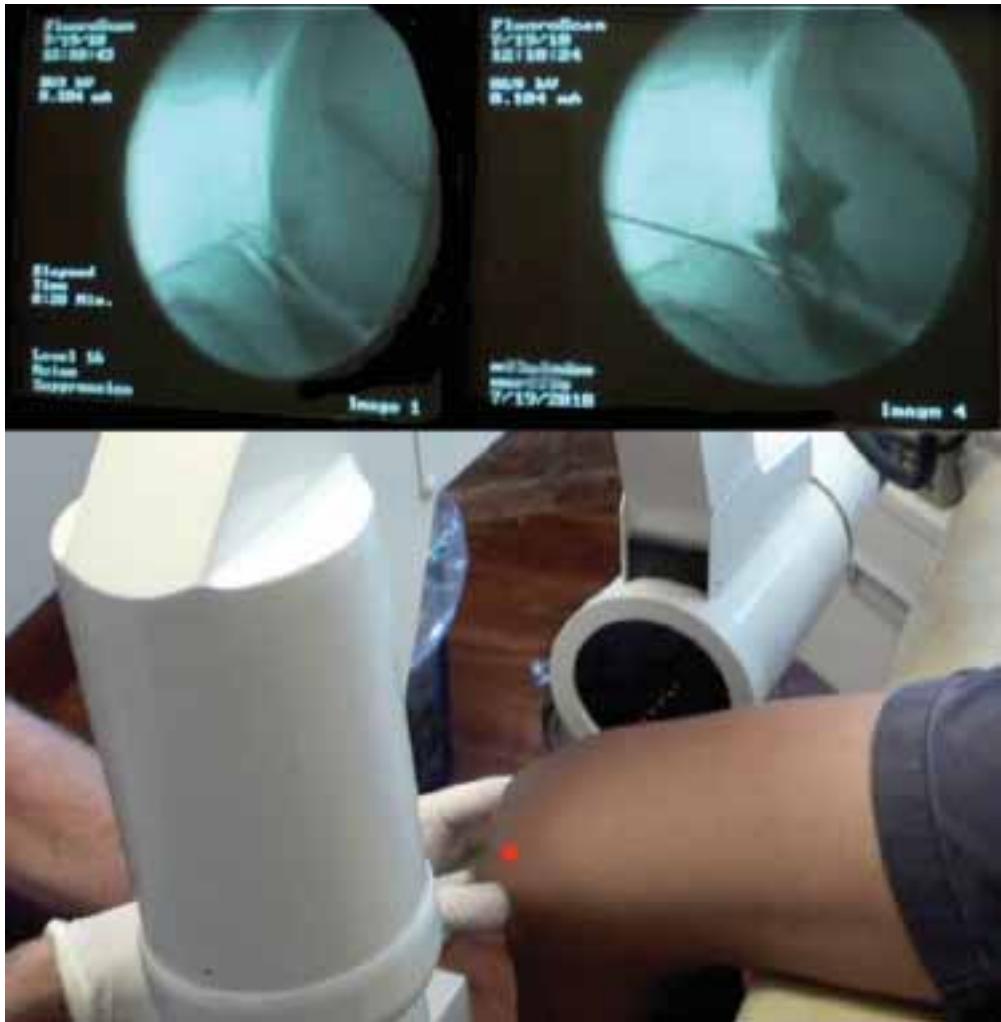
If you have knee arthritis pain and would like to see if this treatment might help you - the experts at **NYC Pain MD** offer a complimentary screening appointment.

This screening will help determine if you are a candidate for treatment and also gives you a chance to get your questions answered.

If you are a candidate, you will leave knowing that you found the possible way to lessen or even eliminate your knee pain for 6 months or more.

There is no obligation and if you are not a candidate - the doctor will help you find the best doctors and treatments for your individual case.

To set up a complimentary screening, just call 800-741-5340. But if you want a screening, we recommend calling right now. Due to time limitations, the center can only offer a limited number of screening per month. They decided to limit the number because they believe in giving every patient the individual time they deserve. If you have ever been to a doctor's office and been rushed or treated like a number - **NYC Pain MD** is different. We would consider this like a "throwback" to the old days of medicine. Before the days when HMO's and insurance companies (and now Obamacare) turned medicine into a business only and made it so difficult to care for patients the best way possible. If you are looking for a state-of-the-art medical clinic with "old school" ethics and values and treats patients



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and treatment. This screening is offered at no cost to the patient. All your questions answered and you will find out if this treatment is for you. Zero risk or obligation. Just call 800-741-5340. Tell them, "I would like the knee screening." They will take care of everything. Due to demand, spots are limited - call immediately to avoid unnecessary waiting. The number to call is: 800-741-5340

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MAYOR BILL DE BLASIO, GOV. ANDREW CUOMO AND THE MTA

The current disagreement between Gov. Andrew Cuomo and NYC Mayor Bill de Blasio over who controls and is responsible for recent Metropolitan Transportation Authority problems is nothing new. This ongoing feud over numerous issues between Cuomo and de Blasio is now into the fourth year. It represents the latest chapter in the respective behavior and ongoing fights between the two.

Based on past history between previous governors and mayors, this is not very surprising. Democrats Cuomo and de Blasio have a lot in common with the late Republicans Gov. Nelson Rockefeller (1959-1974) and NYC Mayor John Lindsay (1966-1973) along with Gov. George Pataki (1995-2006) and NYC Mayor Rudy Giuliani (1994-2001). The same is true for the late Democrat Gov. Mario Cuomo

LARRY PENNER

Analysis

Larry Penner is a transportation historian and advocate who previously worked 31 years for the U.S. Department of Transportation.



(1983-1992) and NYC Mayor Ed Koch (1978-1988). Nelson Rockefeller, George Pataki, Mario Cuomo and son Andrew deal with mayors who want equal billing on the political marquee. Lindsay's urban, Koch's Big Apple, Giuliani's safety/

quality of life and de Blasio's progressive agenda is dependent upon both increased state and federal assistance. De Blasio envisions himself as the national spokesman for progressive mayors from all cities. This conflicts with governors who have to worry about all 62 counties making up New York state. It also creates problems for governors like Cuomo who harbor presidential ambitions in 2020.

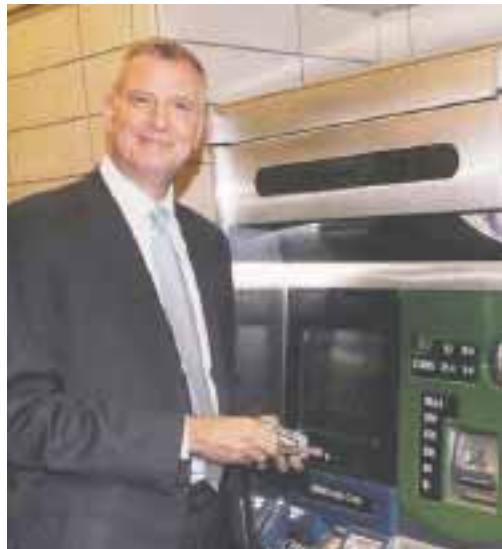
It is disappointing that Mayor de Blasio still has a poor understanding about his relationship with the MTA after four years in office for management and funding of its Capital Program. His ongoing theme is that because the MTA is a state agency, he has no control over its capital program, operations and funding makes no sense when you look at the facts.

Mayor de Blasio appoints four of the

15-member MTA Board. One of his members, NYC DOT Commissioner Polly Trottenberg previously worked for the U.S. Department of Transportation, has an excellent background in transit. This includes how the MTA, city, state and federal governments partner together in improving transit.

Contrary to Mayor de Blasio's rhetoric, NYC has significant influence with both Albany and the MTA. Bronx State Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie appoints one of the four-member MTA Capital Program Review Board. They must approve all MTA five-year Capital Plans and plan amendments, including adding new projects or funding. There are also 59 fellow Democrats in the State Assembly, out of 150 from NYC, who owe their allegiance to Heastie.

Both NYC Republican



Mayor Bill De Blasio contends that because the MTA is a state agency he has no control over its capital program. Not everyone agrees with that. GETTY IMAGES

State Assembly members Ronald Castorina and Nicole Malliotakis from Staten Island are pro transit. Twenty-two of the 24 NYC state Senators are members of the Democratic State Senate caucus. They are led by Westchester state Sen. Andrea Stewart-Cousins, who is friendly toward the Big Apple.

Six of the eight-member Independent Democratic State Senate Conference chaired by Jeffrey Klein including Marisol Alcantara, Tony Avella, Jesse Hamilton, Jose Peralta and Diane Savino are from NYC. Both NYC Republican state Sens. Martin Golden and Andrew Lanza support transit.

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Tillerson to Iranian-backed militias in Iraq: 'Go home'

U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said on Sunday it was time for Iranian-backed militias and their Iranian advisers who helped Iraq defeat Islamic State to "go home," after a rare joint meeting with the leaders of Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

The United States is concerned that Iran, a Shi'ite regional power, will take advantage of gains against IS in Iraq and Syria to expand the influence it gained after the U.S. invasion in 2003, something Sunni Arab rivals such as Riyadh also oppose.

"Iranian militias that are in Iraq, now that the fight against Daesh and ISIS is coming to a close, those militias need to go home. The foreign fighters in Iraq need to go home and allow the Iraqi people to regain control," Tillerson said at a joint news conference with Saudi Foreign Minister Adel Jubeir.



U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson GETTY IMAGES

Tens of thousands of Iraqis heeded a call to arms in 2014 after IS seized a third of the country's territory, forming the Popular Mobilization Forces (PMF), which receive funding and training from Tehran and have been declared part of the Iraqi security apparatus.

A senior U.S. official said Tillerson had been referring to the PMF and the Quds Force, the foreign paramilitary and espionage arm of the

powerful Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC).

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif berated Tillerson's remarks as influenced by Iran's oil-rich regional rival Saudi Arabia.

"Exactly what country is it that Iraqis who rose up to defend their homes against ISIS return to?" Zarif said in a tweet. "Shameful US FP (foreign policy), dictated by petrodollars."

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White House Chief of Staff John Kelly recently channeled his boss, President Donald Trump. GETTY IMAGES

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ANALYSIS



ELLIS HENICAN
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Donald Trump just lost his 4-star character witness.

That didn't take long, did it? It's been less than three months since retired Marine Corps Gen. John Kelly moved from Homeland Security secretary to White House chief of staff. Kelly's new job, never an easy one, was to ease the infighting, fire the worst crackpots and bring some basic credibility to a president who often has trouble distinguishing between Breitbart News and the truth.

Kelly was actually making progress. "Goodbye, Mooch!" "Goodbye, Bannon!" Then Thursday, he marched into the briefing room to clean up the president's latest, self-inflicted mess: a clumsy condolence call to a Gold Star family, a gratuitous attack on a Florida congresswoman and an inaccurate attack on previous U.S. presidents. Just another day in Trumpland, you know.

Kelly's presentation started out promisingly, as he compellingly described how the U.S. military normally responds when a U.S. service member is killed. The iced-down body. The somber helicopter ride. The condolence officer's careful words. Chilling stuff all around. Then, for no good reason, it all went to hell. Kelly began channeling his crude, truth-challenged boss, delivering an ugly, personal and, oh yeah, utterly false attack on Congresswoman Frederica Wilson.

At a 2015 dedication of an FBI building in Florida, Kelly said she "stood

up there ... and talked about how she was instrumental in getting the funding for that building, and how she took care of her constituents because she got the money, and she just called up President Obama, and on that phone call he gave the money — \$20 million — to build the building. And she sat down."

Unfortunately, a video proves none of that was true, except for the sitting-down part. Wilson wasn't even in Congress when the money was approved.

Now, people make mistakes, even 4-star Marine Corps generals. That's not the really bad part.

But faced with these glaring falsehoods, Kelly pulled a Trump. For four long days, the once-credible general has refused to take back a word of his slander. He dispatched White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders to double-down on phony assertions, while he has uttered not a word of apology.

What can you say? The general learned from the master.

Duck, deny, accuse, rinse, repeat.

Metro columnist Ellis Henican is the best-selling author of a dozen books, including "Trumpitude: The Secret Confessions of Donald's Brain," coming next month from Post Hill Press. He is on Twitter @henican.

DO YOU AGREE?



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Celebrity Feuds You Almost Certainly Forgot About

Got beef? METRO

On Thursday night, P!nk admitted to a long ago beef with Christina Aguilera. "She swung on me in a club," the 38-year-old admitted on "Watch What Happens Live with Andy Cohen." "It was hilarious. I was like, 'What is happening

right now? What's happening?' I laughed, it was just funny."

With that charming memory in mind, we're looking at eight delightfully inane celebrity feuds that you may have forgotten about. Enjoy!



P!nk VS Christina Aguilera

The two apparently clashed toward the beginning of their music careers. "We were super young and super new at the whole thing," P!nk explained. "We just were very different, and we were very young and new."



Hilary Duff VS Lindsay Lohan

If you can believe it, these two fought over Aaron Carter — yes, that Aaron Carter — circa 2003. It was the world's most tween-friendly love triangle to date.



Shannen Doherty VS Alyssa Milano

The two former "Charmed" stars had a bunch of drama starring alongside each other on the witchy '90s series. When Doherty left in 2011, she shadily told "Entertainment Tonight" that "there was too much drama on the set and not enough passion for the work." Burn!



Chelsea Handler VS Angelina Jolie

Handler just so happens to be best friends with Jennifer Aniston. And she's made it her life's work to demonize Jolie, since the moment Aniston's now-ex, Brad Pitt, got together with her. "As a woman, I know when you see somebody walking across the room that's a bad girl," Handler said once on "Watch What Happens Live." "I just don't like Angelina Jolie. I don't think she's a girl's girl."



Rihanna VS Ciara

Remember that time when Ciara ignited a feud with Rihanna on Twitter, after insisting that the "Work" singer wasn't very nice to her once? And Rihanna responded, "My bad Ci, did I forget to tip you?" No? Fair.



Martha Stewart VS Gwyneth Paltrow

These two women of privilege had a little disagreement over — of course — GOOP. "She just needs to be quiet," Stewart once said. "She's a movie star. If she were confident in her acting, she wouldn't be trying to be Martha Stewart."

Afterwards, shade-master Stewart created a "Conscious Coupling" pie. Paltrow responded with a "Jailbird Cake" recipe. These ladies have too much time on their hands!



Paris Hilton VS Nicole Richie

Once the best of friends — proven by their reality TV series, "The Simple Life" — these two had a mysterious falling out. "Nicole knows what she did, and that's all I'm ever going to say about it," Hilton famously said. And it's all she ever did.



Nicki Minaj VS Miley Cyrus

The 2015 MTV Video Music Awards were a simpler time. Nonetheless, they were a time where Cyrus publicly called Minaj "not too kind" and "not very polite." Minaj, ever the one to not f—k with, gave us the "Miley, what's good?" heard around the world. Cyrus never did respond with what was good, so we can only imagine.

'The Walking Dead' takes it easy

Recounting the most shocking moments from last night's premiere.

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Rick Grimes and his sweaty hair tendrils are back with a vengeance. With last night's explosive heavy premiere of "The Walking Dead," we finally see the Alexandrians, Hilltop and The Kingdom come together against Negan and the Saviors.

Last night's episode mostly served as a way to slowly reintroduce you to where the series left off and to remind you that these characters really love a monologue. And while this year's premiere was light on the twists and turns, there was still a bit of drama to spare.

Here are the premiere's most shocking moments.

Introducing Old Rick
Old Rick makes an appearance in what could be a flash forward or some sort of fantasy sequence — it's hard to tell. Flash-forward Judith has gotten older too, but flash-forward Michonne appears to not have aged



a day. Nice!

The reveal of Old Rick's awful haircut

While we're at it, we'd be remiss not to mention that Old Rick's brittle haircut can't hold a candle to the wet mess of curly sweat bangs Rick is presently rocking.

Yes, Maggie is still pregnant

Despite having gestated through the last two seasons, Maggie is definitely still pregnant.

Apparently in "The Walking Dead" time, it's only been a number of weeks. Let's continue to suspend our disbelief.

Gregory ditches Father Gabriel

Gregory is a self-serving coward, but Father Gabriel is gonna Father Gabriel. And of course, when he tries to save Gregory, the former Hilltop leader ditches him and steals his getaway car.

Father Gabriel gets close to Negan

In an attempt to escape the walkers, Father Gabriel gets in the same

trailer as Negan.

What strange bedfellows these two will certainly make, huh? Their union also gives us this awful exchange: "I hope you've got your shittin' pants on," Negan says. "I hope you're wearing 'em right now. Because you are about to shit your pants." How can any of us take Negan seriously as a villain when he talks literal nonsense?



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- I have painful calluses on the ball of my foot which keep building up.
- I have corns on my toes which get thick no matter what shoe size I wear.
- The bottom of my heel hurts all day, but it's worse when I step out of bed in the morning.
- I have cramps in my legs which always happen when I walk the same distance.
- My ankles are swollen most of the time.
- My feet are always dry and waxy - sometimes they itch.
- My feet just hurt all over when I stand or walk a lot.
- I have numbness, burning, infection, persistent pain, skin rash, or open sores.

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Best costumes from the Tompkins Square Halloween Dog Parade

Monday morning got you down? Cheer up with a look at these scary cute doggos.



KATE MOONEY
@yatinybrooklyn
kate.mooney@metro.us

On Saturday, thousands of costumed canines and their humans took over Tompkins Square Park for the 27th annual Tompkins Square Halloween Dog Parade. We've rounded up some of the most creative looks, from a Dogald

Trump wearing a roll of toilet paper around his neck with "Hurricane Relief" written on it, to a corgi that went as the Staten Island Ferry, to a group costume of dogs dressed as handmaids from "The Handmaid's Tale," posing with a poster with the words "ME TOO," after the viral social media campaign. If you missed the parade, you can celebrate Dog-o-ween next Saturday, Oct. 28, at the Great PUPkin Dog Costume Contest at Fort Greene Park.



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GETTY IMAGES



A corgi went as the Staten Island Ferry. Cutest way to commute! GETTY IMAGES



Handmaids showing solidarity. @BEARFEFAKIO



Paw-lot. GETTY IMAGES



One scary skateboarder.
GETTY IMAGES



Dogald Trump, wearing a roll of toilet paper around his neck with the words "Hurricane Relief." GETTY IMAGES

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Illuminati 'Bust'

The Illuminati Ball tries to scale up from an intimate, sensual gathering to a Brooklyn party for 1,000. It doesn't quite deliver.



EVA KIS
@thisiskis
eva.kis@metro.us

It was while watching a woman be "disemboweled" to cure her of "political despondency" that we began to wonder, "What is the point of all this?"

This was just one of the rituals taking place at the Illuminati Ball, a sold-out affair for 1,000 guests that went down at The Weylin on Friday night.

Which was the first problem — the real Illuminati Ball remains an intimate group who frolic in a garden of earthly delights at an upstate chateau. Such

evenings took place over the summer, with tickets priced at \$450.

In turning scaling that concept up into a large party for 1,000 guests for the first time, more than the feeling of exclusivity was lost.

We began the evening gathered around an elevated stage watching "pagan rituals" to welcome us into a world of sensual delights with nudity, fire dancing and some light bondage.

But halfway through, VIP guests were told to put on blindfolds and hold hands — and then left standing around as the crowd was dismissed to wander the halls.

Not that there was much to wander to. GA attendees (\$100) had three experiences that we found — a card table for a round of something vaguely poker-esque, a fertility room with a coffin where we visited twice and noth-

ing was going on, and an operating theater that claimed to cure modern-world ennui with nudity, fake blood and a shot of vanilla vodka. If only.

The two additional experiences for VIPs (\$200) were more in line with the event's promise of "elements of wonder and surprise" that would lead us to "the light of esoteric truth." Both the seance and mentalism sessions had some genuinely eerie moments that affected even our roomful of un-believers.

But when you have 1,000 people dressed in black-tie best and prime them with fertility rites, they don't expect to spend their evening playing card games and watching fake surgery.

Without the sense of intimacy — not sex, obviously, but experiences that inspire and intrigue — you're left with watching a wom-



The fertility ritual that began Brooklyn's Illuminati Ball was unfortunately the closest things got to the sensual, intimate affair that these gatherings are known for. **EVA KIS**

an furiously masturbate onstage while idly wondering if the line at the bar has gotten any shorter.

Not to mention the operational problems. The party ran out of masks even for

VIPs, and many didn't obscure our identity anyway so what's the point? The performances didn't start until an hour after the event began, and people waited in line for 45 minutes only to be turned away

at the door because it was only for VIPs.

It should come as no surprise that we didn't have an epiphany at a Williamsburg party. That said, the summer's intimate gatherings are worth saving up for.



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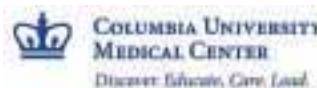
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Trump's attack on birth control coverage

We spoke to a representative from Planned Parenthood to see how this decision will impact women in the workplace.

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"We will not allow people of faith to be targeted, bullied or silenced anymore."

This proclamation was made by President Donald Trump earlier this year. A bold promise directed toward the god-fearing Republican base that was partly responsible for ushering him into the White House. On Friday, Oct. 6, he made good on this promise and announced that he would be rolling back one of President Obama's mandates protecting contraceptive coverage included in the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Under Trump's new plan, businesses will be able to opt out of providing cov-



erage for birth control to female employees if the company believe it goes against their religious beliefs.

In a statement released by President of Planned Parenthood Federation of America Cecile Richards, she wrote, "This is an unacceptable attack on basic health care that the

vast majority of women rely on. With this rule in place, any employer could decide that their employees no longer have health insurance coverage for birth control."

So how exactly will this decision affect you if your employer chooses to take away coverage? I spoke with Lauren Cross,

 & jobs & education

press office for Planned Parenthood, to see if she could shed some light on to how the rollback of this mandate will impact

women in the workplace. "When it comes down to it, it's being called a religious rule but it doesn't have anything to do with religion," Cross says. "Previously even if an employer had a religious objection to birth control, the ACA would still ensure that employees would have birth control coverage through other means. What this specific rule does is that it eliminates that extra protection that was under the ACA for all companies."

Since the election, Planned Parenthood has seen 700,000 new individual donors, and as Cross tells us, they can use all of the help they can get. "This administration is taking every opportunity to attack women's rights and specifically women's health," she explains. "Judging on who is in [Health and Human Services] now

and who is in the Trump administration we don't see that changing anytime soon so our supporters are going to have to continue to be out there and make their presence known."

More than 50 percent of women who use birth control use it for reasons other than preventing pregnancy such as reducing menstrual cramps and lightening of periods. On top of that, our country is seeing a major decrease in unplanned pregnancies. So, isn't it time that we also view birth control as necessary health care? According to Cross, the correlation should not be downplayed by this administration. "We're at a 40-year low of unintended pregnancies and a lot of that is due to increased access to birth control," Cross says. "If your goal is really to reduce the rate of unintended pregnancies and abortions, then you should be investing in women's health and preventative care."

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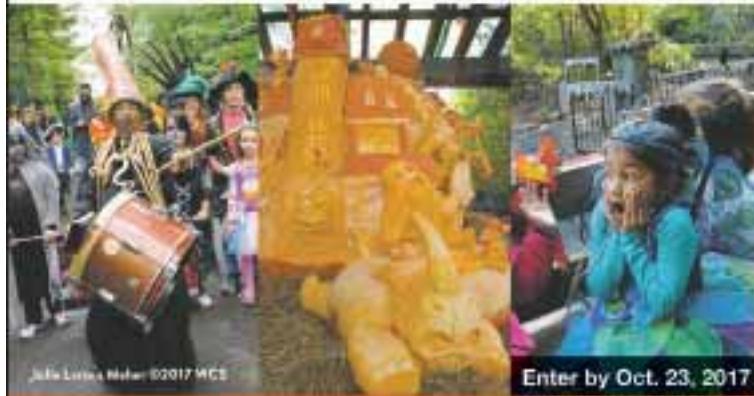
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Growing vegetables on Houston Street

NYU's new urban farm is out to make the impossible possible in the heart of the Lower East Side.

 PAT KING
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Just past six wide lanes of traffic, New York University's Steinhardt School has created an oasis in the middle of NYC's bustling Lower East Side. Over the summer, the students built their new Urban Farm at the base of the Silver Towers apartment complex on Houston Street. Free vegetables are reserved for both the school's students and members of the community. On Wednesday, Oct. 11, the school unveiled the farm to the public with an official ribbon-cutting ceremony with free food made from veggies freshly plucked from the garden beds mere feet away.



NYU Steinhardt School's Urban Garden. JESS FRANCIS, NYU

The one responsible for much of the farm's success is Melissa Metrick, an instructor of Introduction to Urban Agriculture at NYU who is also the garden manager of Brooklyn's wildly hip pizzeria Roberta's. She sees urban farming as a way of slowing down the city and getting people to

truly understand where their food comes from. "It's nice to remind people how food is grown," she says with one of her cowboy boots planted firmly in a bed of clover, "It's not 'out of sight, out of mind' anymore. It's right here on Houston! You can see food being grown and be a part of

the cycle."

Parker Reposa, a student studying urban food production, worked closely with Metrick over the summer to make sure they could get the most out of their harvest in an unlikely environment. "There are aspects of an urban farm like this, that you get no-

where else," he says adding "sometimes there are little bits of trash that will blow through the garden... It definitely keeps you on your toes." As a crowd gathered around, Clinical Associate Professor and Director of the Graduate Food Studies Program Jennifer Berg boomed with enthusiasm

at the program's accomplishments. "This is not the largest urban farm in the city," she exclaimed with ribbon-cutting scissors in hand, "but it is arguably the most urban!" Although she was only half joking, looking past the beautiful tomatoes growing out of the lush tilled soil and onto the highway you would be hard-pressed to imagine a garden more rooted in the city than this one.

Berg can only see a bright future for their urban farm and members of the community are already taking notice and becoming curious about what they are growing in their front yard. "Anytime we're here and someone is walking down the street," she says, "we get someone asking 'Can I eat that?'" It's hard to believe fresh vegetables could be grown on the mean streets of New York City, but urban farms like this one are out to change that perception.



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McCown's late INT dooms Jets

The Jets let a 14-point fourth-quarter lead slip away to the Dolphins in Week 7.

 JOE PANTORNO
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Josh McCown's interception in the final minute set up Cody Parkey's game-winning 39-yard field goal to lift the Miami Dolphins to a 31-28 victory over the New York Jets (3-4) on Sunday afternoon.

FINAL 10/22	
 28	28
 31	31

The Dolphins trailed by two touchdowns entering the fourth quarter but were led by backup quarterback Matt Moore, who took over for an injured Jay Cutler.

Wide receiver Kenny Stills recorded two

touchdowns on the day to lead the Dolphins' offense, both of them coming in the fourth quarter to overturn a 28-14 deficit.

The final minutes put a damper on what was a productive day for McCown. The Jets quarterback recorded four total touchdowns on the day, three of them through the air.

He came out slinging to start, ripping apart the Dolphins secondary on New York's opening drive.

After his first completion of the day went for 31 yards, McCown capped off a 75-yard drive that took just 2:05 with a 29-yard connection with Jermaine Kearse.

Miami provided a quick answer on their ensuing drive, going 65 yards in 2:11. Cutler connected with Jarvis Landry for a four-yard score just moments after Stills made a circus-style 36-yard-catch that saw him bobble and secure possession while on his back.

The Jets took the lead



Kenny Stills' (left) two fourth-quarter TD's helped spark the Dolphins come-from-behind win. GETTY IMAGES

late in the first when McCown hooked up with Robbie Anderson on an 18-yard slant route that left the Temple alum wide open before taking a seat in the first row at Camping World Stadium as a celebration.

There wasn't much time to actually rest though as the Dolphins responded once again when Anthony Fasano's four-yard score tied things up midway

through the second quarter.

New York's defense did manage to step up and make a huge play to help redeliver the lead to Gang Green. Taking over possession on their own five-yard line after a Jets punt, Cutler's attempted pass was deflected and intercepted by the birthday boy Muhammad Wilkerson, who drew the ire of the New York media after

some sluggish performances.

McCown collected his third score of the game when he snuck into the end zone on a one-yard keeper to give the Jets a seven-point halftime lead that looked like it was to grow after Cutler was forced to leave the game in the third with a chest injury, forcing Moore to come on in relief.

He was quickly

picked off by Marcus Maye to set up the Jets' fourth touchdown as McCown was given possession in Miami territory.

In eight plays, the Jets were up by a pair of touchdowns after he delivered his third passing touchdown of the afternoon, an easy 10-yard connection to a wide-open Austin Seferian-Jenkins.

Moore found his footing though and was able to pull one back early in the fourth quarter when he hooked up with Stills for a 28-yard score.

Five minutes later, the game was tied after he went to Stills again, who made an impressive one-handed catch in traffic to tie things up.

The offenses could do little in the final minutes as the Dolphins punted the ball away with 47 seconds left as the game seemed destined to go to overtime. But McCown's first throw of the drive that began on the Jets 15-yard-line was intercepted by Brice McCain to set up Parkey's game winner.

Seahawks smack down lifeless Giants

Seattle came into MetLife Stadium and dominated New York in Week 7 on Sunday.

 JOE PANTORNO
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Don't let the scoreboard fool you. The New York Giants (1-6) were thoroughly dominated by the Seattle Seahawks in a 24-7 loss on Sunday evening at MetLife Stadium.

The shorthanded Giants offense was in-

FINAL 10/22	
 24	24
 7	7

competent against the Seahawks defense as they could only muster 177 total yards.

Eli Manning's passing offense didn't generate a thing as he passed for 134 yards on 39 attempts.

By comparison, the Seahawks put up 425 yards of total offense.

Russell Wilson passed for 334 yards with three touchdowns against a Giants defense that was simply worn out because the offense was unable to keep them off the field for an extended period of time.

While the Giants offense accrued just nine total yards in the first quarter, the defense was spectacular, coming up with three goal-line stops on the same drive that was extended by a pair of penalties on two separate third-and-goals.

Working the ball down to the one-yard-line on their third set of downs, the Seahawks went for it on fourth-and-1, but Russell Wilson was unable to find Jimmy Graham on a quick



Landon Collins and the Giants defense was left out to dry by an inept offense that stalled all day. GETTY IMAGES

screen.

The defense continued to make plays while the offense sputtered when rookie Avery Moss jarred the ball loose from Thomas Rawls in Giants territory. The fumble was picked up by Landon Collins, who returned it to the Seahawks' 17-yard-line.

Two plays later, Manning hit rookie tight end

Evan Engram for a five-yard touchdown to give New York an unlikely lead considering the offense was outgained, 112-35, with 11:51 left in the second quarter.

The Seahawks continued to dominate possession, running 41 plays in the first half while picking up 15 first downs compared to the Giants' 4, yet they could only

muster a field goal with 46 seconds left in the second quarter to get on the scoreboard.

They were finally able to break through the Giants defense with 7:30 left in the third quarter when Russell Wilson lobbed a 22-yard dime to Doug Baldwin in the middle of the field, where the Giants didn't opt to put a safety on a

second-and-22.

New York managed to piece together a nine-play drive to get within field goal range to tie the game, but Aldrick Rosas missed a 47-yard attempt just 42 seconds into the fourth quarter.

It got even worse when Manning fumbled away the ball when he was sacked by Jarran Reed, giving the Seahawks possession near midfield.

On the ensuing play, Wilson connected with Paul Richardson for a controversial 38-yard touchdown as both the receiver and the Giants safety Collins had simultaneous possession of the ball in the end zone.

They put the game away with two minutes left when Wilson tossed his third touchdown of the game to Jimmy Graham to make the score look a little more realistic after the clinic they put on.



The Mets hired Indians pitching coach Mickey Callaway as their new manager on Sunday afternoon. GETTY IMAGES

Mets hire Callaway as new manager

New York's managerial search is over after nabbing the Indians' pitching coach.


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The Mets have hired Mickey Callaway as their new manager, signing him to a three-year deal on Sunday afternoon. He is expected to be introduced to the media on Monday.

Callaway was previously the pitching coach of the Cleveland Indians — where he had been since the 2013 season — working with a talented pitching staff that contained the likes of Cy Young winner Corey Kluber.

The 42-year-old had a brief major-league career, making 20 career starts over five seasons, but nabbing a manager that has pitching experience in the majors and has worked with such a talented staff like the Indians is a smart acquisition for the Mets.

This is a team that will once again hinge their success on a talented, yet oft-injured, rotation that still has not met its potential. Granted, much of that has to do with injuries that have provided lengthy trips to the disabled list for Noah Syndergaard,

Matt Harvey, Steven Matz and Zack Wheeler in 2017.

If they can stay healthy, Callaway could spark some major improvements within the staff, which had been led by Dan Warthen since 2008 before he left the team earlier this month. In 2017, Callaway's Indians had the league's best team ERA at 3.30. By comparison, a hobbled Mets pitching staff had a team ERA of 5.01. Only the Cincinnati Reds and Detroit Tigers had worse marks.

After former manager Terry Collins stepped down following the final game of a disappointing 2017 season, ending a seven-year run at the position, the Mets quickly put together a list of candidates that included as many as seven names. Among them were former players Robin Ventura, Joe McEwing and Curtis Granderson in August to make way for the future in shortstop Amed Rosario and first baseman Dominic Smith.

Ventura and Ausmus opted not to be interviewed while Cora, the current Houston Astros bench coach, is set to become the new manager of the Boston Red Sox after the World Series.

McEwing and Long were taken out of consideration after their interviews as the search dwindled down to Callaway and Acta. Shortly

before he was first to report that Callaway was their man, MLB Network's Joel Sherman revealed that Acta was out of the running as well.

It remains to be seen if Long will continue serving as Mets pitching coach or if he will continue pursuing managerial jobs around the league.

Callaway is walking into a difficult situation as Mets manager. A team that was tabbed to make a serious run toward a World Series entering 2017 finished with a dismal 70-92 record. Injuries were just as prevalent in the field and in the batter's box as Yoenis Cespedes battled constant hamstring issues while Michael Conforto dislocated his shoulder while swinging. The team traded away Neil Walker, Lucas Duda, Jay Bruce and Curtis Granderson in August to make way for the future in shortstop Amed Rosario and first baseman Dominic Smith.

On top of that, Harvey is in a contract year after three rocky seasons on and off the field have put him at odds with the organization at times.

There are a lot of intangibles that will be out of Callaway's control, but in an enormous market like New York, he will have to be prepared for everything.

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1. DiMeo PJ. Psychosocial and Relationship Issues in Men with Erectile Dysfunction. Urologic Nursing. 2006 Dec; 26(6): 442-453.

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WE JUST WITNESSED THE GREATEST 'REBUILD' EVER

OPINION



JOE PANTORNO
@JoePantorno

The words "rational" and "sports fans" don't always jibe, especially during tense times like the Major League Baseball postseason.

As Game 7 of the ALCS unfolded and it became abundantly clear that the Houston Astros were going to complete a 3-games-to-2 comeback to eliminate the New York Yankees from World Series contention, it would have been understandable for the masses to wallow in their misery for a while.

Heck, it hasn't even been 48 hours since the Yankees' Saturday-night loss and there surely are plenty who are still hurting and will be hurting for the next



The Yankees were one win away from the World Series. GETTY IMAGES

five months or so.

When it comes to the grieving process though, there are always those who look for the positives in bleak situations. There's been one sentiment that has echoed above them all though, one that fans and pundits alike have gotten spot on.

This was supposed to be a rebuilding year.

In layman's terms, the playoffs should have been one of the furthest thoughts from Yankee minds.

Entering the 2017 season, this was supposed to be the New York Mets' year. They had all the pieces to contend for a World Series; a dominant pitching staff, a deep lineup and marquee names that would control the city's baseball landscape.

The Yankees were

a team shrouded in question marks. Can this pitching staff do anything against a potent AL East? Can Gary Sanchez replicate his stellar rookie campaign? Is Aaron Judge a feasible option in left field.

But as the Mets faltered, crashed and burned after countless injuries and bad breaks, the Yankees shot out of the gates, headlined by the ridiculous first half by Judge.

It laid the foundation to the greatest power-hitting season by a rookie in MLB history as he concluded the season with 52 home runs.

After overcoming an early injury, Sanchez's bat was just as potent while New York received big-time contributions from Didi Gregorius and Brett Gardner.

The starting rota-

tion was solid as Luis Severino emerged as an All-Star while Masahiro Tanaka and the aging CC Sabathia provided the necessary support. But it was the bullpen that was the most solid, only getting better at the trade deadline when they acquired Tommy Kahnle and David Robertson from the Chicago White Sox.

Before you knew it, the "rebuilding" team that was supposed to sniff the playoffs was challenging for the division and had a stronghold on the first American League wild-card spot.

Down went the Minnesota Twins in the wild-card game, down went the Cleveland Indians to everyone's surprise in the ALDS after the AL Central champions entered the postseason as baseball's hottest team.

While they couldn't get past Houston, the Yankees' young core just received an education in playoff baseball, one that is going to be invaluable moving forward.

Getting to within one win of the World Series is quite the education, no matter how much it hurts right now.

It's the most cliched saying in baseball, but wait till next year, Yankees fans. Things are only going to get better.



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Pursuant to a Judgment of
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NOTICE OF SALE

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COUNTY OF QUEENS,
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OMNI HOME LLC, et al.,
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NY, on November 17, 2017 at 10:00
o'clock in the forenoon of that day,
the premises directed in and by said
judgment to be sold. The premises
are identified as Block 9430 and
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Michael H. Dikman, Esq.,
Referee

Peter T. Roach & Associates, P.C.
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39 Ms. Thurman of "Pulp Fiction"
40 Anger
41 Famed viol.
44 IRS month
45 Free to roam
47 Examined closely
49 Less approachable
51 Cheers for toreros
52 Friction easer
53 Postponed action
56 Rubdown
60 Tien Shan range

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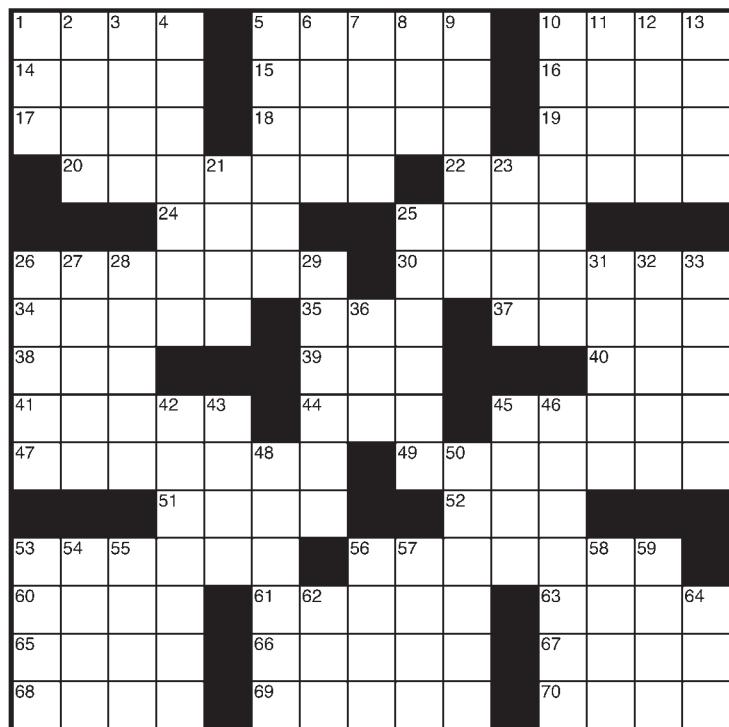
61 Horses' strides
63 Roulette color
65 Names
66 Quiz-show VIP
67 Mend socks
68 Delhi nursemaid
69 Wait in line
70 Inspired poetry

Down

1 Ford product
2 Fibber
3 Actress -- Falco
4 Trumpet blast
5 Stuck
6 Touche provoker
7 Manicurist's tool
8 Cable network
9 Every January
10 Put away a sword
11 Snaky fish
12 Select actors for

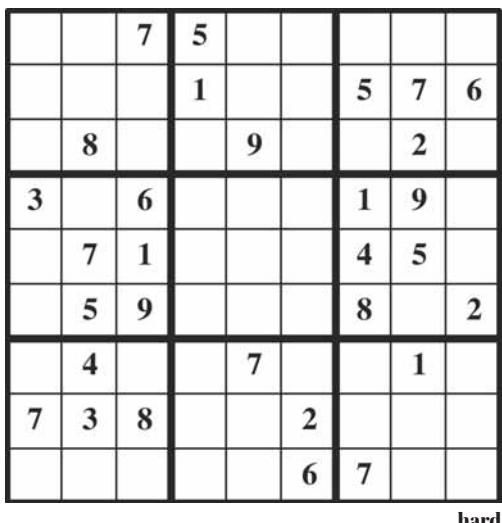
13 Very, to Yvette
21 Russian range
23 Word of honor
25 Asparagus units
26 Made a selection
27 Ill-considered
28 Poet's blue
29 Social peers
31 Easy-to-find constellation
32 Leif's language
33 Vile smile
36 Strike caller
42 Revoke
43 Cartoon chipmunk
45 Garlands
46 Disney city
48 Projecting ridges
50 Flipped a coin
53 "I did it!" (hyph.)
54 An astringent
55 Rum-soaked cake
56 Translucent mineral
57 -- foot pole
58 Spur on
59 Patrick's domain
62 Lb. or tsp.
64 ER personnel

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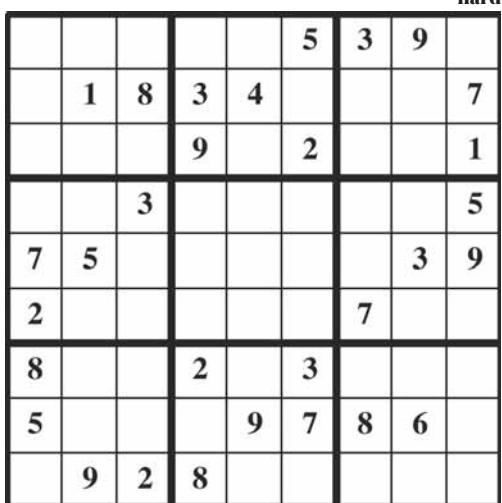


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easy



hard



metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Add to your qualifications. Learn, explore and figure out the best way to move forward. Make today the beginning of a new adventure. Personal gain is within reach.



Taurus Take care of your financial and domestic affairs personally. Someone you think you can trust may feel entitled to abuse a privilege you have offered in the past.



Gemini Question your motives. You may get more than you bargained for if your intent isn't made clear to everyone you are dealing with. Physical fitness will ease your stress.



Cancer Be brave and explore what life has to offer. Do things differently and you'll surprise and please the people you care about most. Let your creative imagination lead the way.



Leo Don't let changes at work or at home get to you. Deal with your responsibilities and move on to the things you enjoy doing. A personal improvement will lift your spirits.



Virgo Communication will be your ticket to positive change. Stick to the truth and explicitly lay out your plans. Tell anyone who balks that they are welcome to take a pass.



Libra Make up your mind and stick to your plans. Take care of your health and walk away from discord. Physical improvements will boost your confidence.



Scorpio Guard against impulsive and unpredictable people pressuring you to follow them. Create the life you want, instead of accepting what someone pushes on you.



Sagittarius Embellishing a story or making fun of someone will invite criticism and create emotional distress. If you offer kindness you'll be praised, not chastised.



Capricorn Learn from experience when dealing with emotional matters. You are best off not making changes without getting the necessary approval first.



Aquarius Less talk will help to alleviate conflict. Hard work will pay off and leave no room for criticism. A professional change looks promising.



Pisces Stay on top of sensitive situations. Using intelligence will help you dodge a problem, leaving you more time to focus on creative pursuits. **EUGENIA LAST**



Yesterday's answers

H	A	N	G	A	D	L	I	B	R	O	T	E
E	M	I	R	T	I	A	R	A	A	D	A	M
M	O	N	A	M	E	M	O	R	A	N	D	U
P	R	O	N	G	T	A	N	M	I	S	T	Y
D	U	K	E	S	D	M	E	N				
K	N	E	E	L	E	C	O	N	T	A	C	T
R	A	R	E	L	Y	D	C	A	T	O	L	E
A	D	O	S	H	A	R	P	E	N	O	A	R
F	E	D	S	O	V	A	L	O	C	U	S	T
T	R	E	A	D	E	B	E	S	I	D	E	S
M	A	E	C	E	D	E	S	I	D	E	S	E
E	R	U	P	A	H	A	S	T	A	B	S	S
C	O	L	L	A	P	S	I	N	E	L	I	A
H	O	N	E	A	E	R	I	E	R	E	A	L
O	M	A	R	L	A	P	E	L	N	E	S	T

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